## **NEWS** from the North Dakota Department of Human Services 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck ND 58505

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## **Grant Writing Training Focusing on Disability Services to be Held in Fargo April 24**

BISMARCK, N.D. - The N.D. State Council on Developmental Disabilities, the N.D. Protection and Advocacy Project, and the N.D. Center for Persons with Disabilities will hold a grant writing training in Fargo on Wed., April 24, 2013, from 8:30 a.m. to noon at Friendship Inc., 801 Page Drive. The training will focus primarily on the N.D. State Council on Developmental Disabilities grant application process.

"Each year, the State Council on Developmental Disabilities provides grant funding to support innovative projects and services that enhance opportunities for people with developmental disabilities and their families," said Cheryl Hess, the council's executive director. "This training will help organizations prepare and submit top-notch grant applications for financial assistance that could change the lives of people with disabilities in their community."

Participants will receive instruction on understanding a request for proposal, developing an idea into a fundable application, writing and editing a proposal, formatting and presentation techniques, and developing and justifying a budget. The training will be led by professionals from the N.D. Center for Persons with Disabilities who have extensive experience in grant development, preparation, and writing; finance management, and project coordination.

Hess said the training is open to local, regional, and state agency staffs, advocates, self-advocates, provider agencies, employees of community service agencies, and others interested in disability services grants.

There is no cost to attend the training, but preregistration is required by April 22. People can preregister by contacting the N.D. Center for Persons with Disabilities at 800-233-1737, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888 or <a href="mailto:susie.mack@minotstate.edu">susie.mack@minotstate.edu</a>.

Last year, the 19-member N.D. State Council on Developmental Disabilities awarded nine grants totaling over \$319,000 to five North Dakota organizations that serve individuals with developmental disabilities and family members. Grant funds are intended to support the council's goals and the Developmental Disability Act emphasis areas.